UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA SAVANNAH DIVISION

AATU LLC, et al.,)	
Plaintiffs,)	
v.)	CV425-033
JARED BROWN, D.C.,)	
Defendant.)	

ORDER

Before the Court is the parties' Rule 26(f) Report. Doc. 25. The District Judge requires that parties structure discovery in four sequential stages. *Id.* at 6. This sequence is clearly articulated in Section IV of the required Rule 26(f) Report form, as is the instruction:

Unless the parties show good cause to proceed otherwise, the parties <u>must</u> propose discovery deadlines that follow this sequential course. In other words, absent a specific showing of good cause, the parties should not propose one deadline to accomplish all discovery measures. Rather, the parties must propose sequential deadlines by which they shall successively accomplish each of the above four areas of discovery.

Id. In the section of the form provided for the parties to state the cause for any deviation from the required sequence, the parties answered,

"[t]he parties do not intend to deviate from the sequence of discovery set forth above." *Id*.

Despite the clear instructions from the Court, the discovery schedule proposed does not conform to the required sequence, and the parties have failed to show good cause for their deviation. For example, the parties' proposed schedule includes a deadline for plaintiffs' disclosure of expert witness that expires prior to the deadline to complete non-expert witness depositions. Doc. 25 at 8-9. To be clear, it is the Court's expectation that the parties will set sequential deadlines which will allow them to 1) first complete all fact-based written discovery, inspections and examinations; 2) then to conduct the depositions of nonexpert witnesses; 3) then to provide expert disclosures; and 4) then to conduct expert witness depositions. Each stage of discovery should be completed before proceeding to the next. To the extent the parties wish to deviate from this sequence, they must show good cause in their renewed Rule 26(f) Report.

The parties are **DIRECTED** to file a revised Rule 26(f) Report no later than October 17, 2025. Finally, the parties' initial Rule 26(f) Report is **TERMINATED**. Doc. 25.

SO ORDERED, this 10th day of October, 2025.

CHRISTOPHER L. RAY

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA